

the will of all bow down to her, she had acquired a certain courage, self-confidence and imperiousness, which made her appear haughty and domineering. This, however, in cases of great danger, left her, and she broke down entirely, as is seen in her interview with De Bracy, when she suddenly found herself in opposition to a strong, fierce man, with a will even stronger than her own.

Rebecca, on the other hand, when placed in an even more perilous position than was Rowena, remained calm and brave throughout, for she was prepared by habits of thought and by natural strength of mind to encounter the dangers to which she was exposed. She calmly thought over what had happened, and finding no way of escape, resigned herself, with the greatest fortitude, to heaven, which she was confident would surely protect her in her trouble. This side of her character is well portrayed in her interview with Brian De Bois Guilbert at the castle of Front De Boeut.

She had been taught, according to the knowledge peculiar to her nation, the use of medicine, and the art of healing. This, combined with her gentle presence, soothing touch, tender and sympathetic nature, made her a perfect nurse, and is it of any wonder that Ivanhoe soon recovered from his severe wounds?

What would Rowena have done in a sick room, I wonder? I am afraid she would have grown faint at the sight of blood, and, not knowing any more what to do than a little child, would have called a nurse, and, full of pity and compassion, have retired to her own room.

Rebecca's strength of character is shown at the trial at Templestowe. Resolved not to marry the Templar, she is ready to give up her life, to be condemned a sorceress, and burned at the stake, rather than give herself to this man, whom she did not love; yet after all his wickedness, her sweet, noble nature shows itself, and she entirely forgives the cause of all her unhappiness, and breathing a prayer to her God, she waits bravely and calmly for the champion whom she thought would never come.

The last scene in the book shows the two girls together for the last time, Rowena, gentle and dignified as the wife of Ivanhoe; Rebecca pure, noble, and strong of purpose, keeping the love which she bore for Ivanhoe locked in her heart, where no one will discover it. She says "Farewell," to the happy Rowena and goes away ever faithful to her poor old father, to live out her life of usefulness, to tend the sick, feed the hungry, and relieve the distressed.

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